Pat Quinn, Governor Marc Miller, Director

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NATURAL

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IDNR Extends Controlled Pheasant Hunting at Iroquois County CA, Increases Hunter Quota at Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) today announced that the controlled pheasant hunting season has been extended at the Iroquois County Conservation Area and hunter quotas have been increased at the Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area.

The pheasant season previously scheduled to conclude on December 19, 2010 at Iroquois County Conservation Area will now continue through Sunday, December 26. The site will be closed on Christmas Day. The Iroquois County Conservation Area is located eight miles south-southeast of St. Anne.

At Jim Edgar Panther Creek, the hunter quota for the remainder of the hunting season has been increased from the typical 55 hunters per day to 70 hunters per day. Jim Edgar Panther Creek is located in Cass County, 11 miles northwest of Ashland.

The season extension and hunter quota increase at these sites are possible because the IDNR Wildlife Propagation Centers had a better than expected pheasant production season.

Hunters are encouraged to use the online Controlled Pheasant Hunting Reservation System at http://www.dnr.illinois.gov to secure permits for these additional hunting opportunities. Reserved permits ensure hunters will have the opportunity to hunt. Standby permits are also available at each site, although standby hunting opportunities may be limited.

To access the reservation system: Click on the "Hunting" icon on the IDNR Home Page; Then click on "Upland/Small Game Hunting;" Then click on "Controlled Pheasant Hunting Areas Permit Reservation System."

Hunters are reminded that the daily permit fee for the controlled pheasant program is \$25

for resident hunters and \$35 for nonresident hunters. The daily permit fee applies to each hunter. Daily permit fees are collected at the site hunter check station on the hunt date. Hunters need to be prepared to pay permit fees with cash. IDNR-operated sites do not accept checks and are unable to accept credit or debit cards.

Hunters without computers are encouraged to gain access to the controlled pheasant hunting online reservation system by checking with family or friends who have computers with internet access or by using a computer at their local public library. Completing a permit reservation online takes less than five minutes.

For complete details, check the controlled pheasant hunting website at http://www.dnr.illinois.gov.

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